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Notes on Iowa Fungi. XIII

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The late summer and fall of 1953 was one of the driest seasons on record in much of Iowa. After the torrential rain and windstorm of July 4, there was very little precipitation in the Iowa City area until late fall and the total recorded was a record low. Nevertheless, trips to Macbride State Park on August 5 and one to White Pine Hollow on the 7 provided excellent collecting, including what are believed to be new records of agarics and boletes for the State. Report on most of these will be deferred until opportunity has been afforded for detailed study, but comments on a few of these collections, as well as a few notes based on earlier collections are here presented.

Lasiosphaeria ovina (Pers.) Ces. & de Not.

This species is extremely common on dead wood and is often sent to this laboratory as a slime mold. When the white tomentum covers the perithecia, it does have a superficial resemblance to certain Physarums and Didymiums. I do not know of any report of it as a coprophilous fungus, however. It was growing very abundantly on old cow dung in a wooded pasture along Old Man's Creek, about twelve miles west of Iowa City, in August, 1943.

Spathularia flavida Fries

Under the name *S. clavata* (Schaeff.) Sacc., Seaver (Bull. Lab. Nat. Hist. Iowa 5(3): 24. 1904) reported this species as common in northeastern Iowa. In a later paper (Bull. Lab. Nat. Hist. Iowa 6: 48. 1910) he corrects this statement, saying it had been found only once, apparently in Winneshiek County and probably in the vicinity of Decorah.

In August, 1953, the species was abundant in White Pine Hollow, Dubuque County, hundreds of the bright yellow clubs arising from the carpet of dead pine needles. Seaver's illustration (N.A. Cup-Fungi. Inop., *pl. 81, f. 2.* 1951) is excellent.

Humarina aggregata (Berk. & Br.) Seaver

What is believed to be this species is rather common in the vicinity of Iowa City, the bright masses of apothecia conspicuous against the surface of the ground where there have been fires. It is not restricted to such areas, but is less readily seen where there

is more of a covering of ground vegetation. The disk is at first brilliant orange-red, fading with age to pale dull orange. The outer surface is often marked with blackish streaks, looking like appressed hairs under a hand lens, but under the mircoscope they appear to be composed of amorphous granules, probably particles of carbon picked up by the expanding ascocarp and distributed in radial lines. Seaver (N.A. Cup-Fungi. Op., Supp. ed. 1942) gives the distribution in the United States as New Hampshire, Virginia, Indiana and Manitoba. I have not seen a previous record of the occurrence of this species in Iowa.

ARRHYTIDIA ENATA Coker

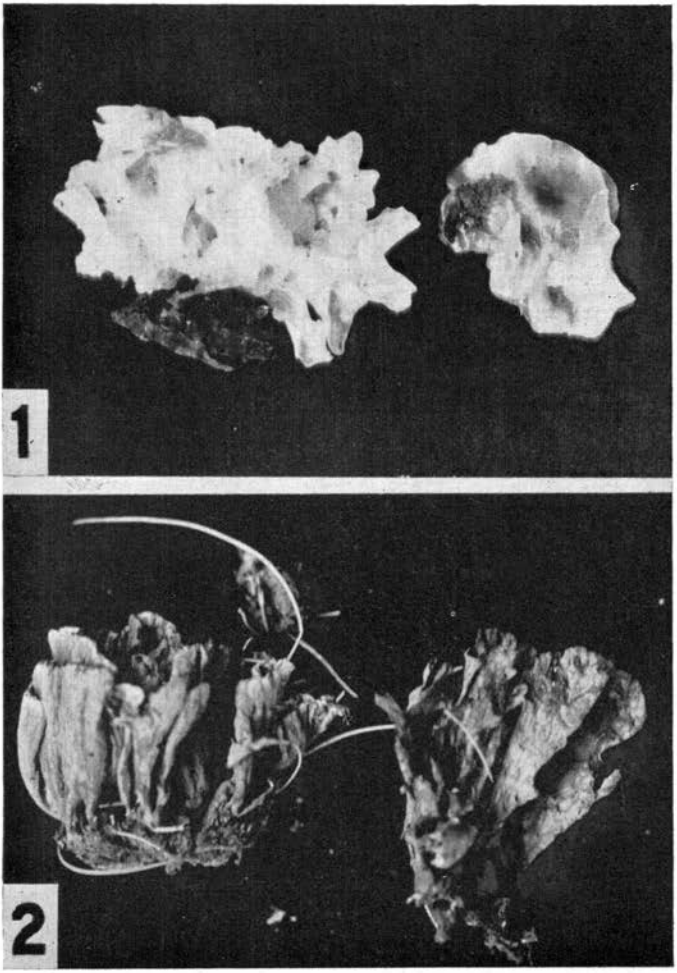
Heretofore known only east of the Alleghenies, from Massachusetts and New York to South Carolina. A collection made at Pine Hollow on August 7, 1952, is, so far as I am aware, the first record of this species west of the Alleghenies.

TREMELLA FUCIFORMIS Berk. Fig. 1

This species is widely distributed in tropical and warm-temperate regions of both hemispheres. We have specimens from as far south as the vicinity of Buenos Aires, Argentina, and numerous collections from Hawaii. It is also known from Japan and Africa. In the United States, there are reliable reports of its occurrence in North and South Carolina, Alabama and Louisiana. It has been reported from the northern states, but such reports seem to be due to confusion with *T. reticulata* (Berk.) Farlow, stemming from the description and illustration of that species by Atkinson (Stud. Am. Fungi 206, *f. 196.* 1900) under the name *fuciformis.* The two species are quite distinct. *T. fuciformis* grows on wood, has flattened, more or less dichotomously branched lobes with little or no anastomosis, and broadly ovate spores 5-6 x 4-4.5μ. *T. reticulata* grows on the ground, has more or less terete branches with abundant anastomoses, forming a distinct network at maturity, and much larger spores, 9-11 x 5-6μ. It was a distinct surprise to find *T. fuciformis* at Macbride State Park on August 7, 1953.

THELEPHORA CARYOPHYLLEA Fries, Fig. 2

This species seems not to have been previously reported from the state. An abundant collection was made at White Pine Hollow, Dubuque County, on August 3, 1953, at the base of a large white pine, growing in part on the soil and in part on the exposed roots.



EXPLANATION OF FIGURES

1. *Tremella fuciformis* Berk., X1
2. *Thelephora caryophyllea* Fries, X1

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